

CT-550  
WESTERN CHURCH  
(Early 20th Century)  
Adelina  
Private

Western Church is a one story, four bay, T-shaped structure with an addition at one end forming a cross plan. Of frame construction, it is sheathed with aluminum siding. The gothic arched windows have simple colored glass sashes. The main entrance is located in an angle of the cross form with the door located in a projecting bell tower. The door is topped with a large gothic arch and there is a small pedimented porch at the entrance way.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-550

Magi No. 0505505604

DOE   yes   no

## ADDENDUM

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Western Methodist Episcopal Church (now, Carroll-Western United Methodist Church)

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number 2325 Adelina Road                      not for publicationcity, town Prince Frederick                      vicinity of                      congressional district 5thstate Maryland                      county Calvert

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture
<u>  </u> building(s)	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial
	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military
			<u>  </u> museum
			<u>  </u> park
			<u>  </u> private residence
			<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<u>  </u> scientific
			<u>  </u> transportation
			<u>  </u> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church

~~Carroll-Western UMC Board of Trustees~~

church

street &amp; number 2325 Adelina Road

telephone no.: 410/535-2210

city, town Prince Frederick                      state and zip code MD 20678

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse                      liber <sup>AAH</sup> 32street & number Main Street                      folio 144city, town Prince Frederick                      state Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Western Church, CT-550

date 1980

   federal    ☒ state    county    local

pository for survey records MHT/ Calvert County Department of Planning and Zoning

city, town                      state

## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	*aluminum siding,	replacement windows	

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### 7. DESCRIPTION

Carroll-Western United Methodist Church is a one story, four bay, t-shaped structure with an addition at one end forming a cross plan. Of frame construction, it is sheathed with aluminum siding. The gothic arched windows have simple colored glass sashes. The main entrance is located in an angle of the cross form with the door located in a projecting bell tower. The door is topped with a large gothic arch and there is a small pedimented porch at the entrance way. The tower is topped with a square belfry and steeple with four gothic arched openings. The belfry is trimmed with curvilinear brackets.

--After statement prepared by Merry Stinson, 1980

### 8. SIGNIFICANCE

The Carroll-Western United Methodist Church is a significant example of cooperation and mutual support in the African American communities surrounding Cypress Swamp--Adelina and Island Creek. It is also an example of the complex skills of one man, Clarence Bowen, used in service to his community. (See Inventory files for other examples of Clarence Bowen's work, e.g., CT-268.)

Two African American Methodist Episcopal congregations, Carroll and Western, consolidated in the late 1950s to form Carroll-Western. The present church building was constructed to replace the earlier Western Methodist Episcopal Church. The original structure was demolished shortly after the completion of the present building in 1947. The original congregation was probably formed some time after the Washington Conference was founded on the eve of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Many Calvert County African American congregations formed and began building during the period following the Civil War. The earliest reference to the Western Church in the Calvert County land records is a deed dated 1895.

The following information was offered by Benjamin White, Walter Brooks and Cedric White who all worked on building the present church. Their stories were supplemented by Raymond Harris and Grace Bungy. Copies of the taped interview, conducted by Alecia Parker and Kirsti Uunila on 15 July 1995, are on file at the Calvert Marine Museum in the Folklife Archive and with the Cypress Swamp Oral History file at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. CT-550

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) African-American history

**Specific dates** 1945–1947, constr. **Builder/Architect** Clarence Bowen

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

### 8. SIGNIFICANCE *continued*

The present church was designed by Clarence Bowen, one of the trustees. According to Benjamin White—son of trustee Joseph White and himself, a trustee—Clarence Bowen drew up the plans based on the Asbury Methodist Church in Prince Frederick. Timber for the framing was donated.

Volunteers from the congregation felled pine trees on the Bourne property on Hance Road in Island Creek using cross-cut saws. They cut the logs into 12 and 14-foot lengths and took them by truck to Clarence Bowen's saw mill on Sixes Road. At Bowen's mill the logs were milled and dressed for framing lumber.

Bowen also had a block-making machine. Volunteers dug the sand from a bank on Bowen's farm, screened it, and mixed it with water and cement and put it in the block-maker. The machine made five blocks at a time. The foundation of the Carroll-Western church is entirely made of block from Bowen's machine.

The men excavated for the foundation by hand and with a pair of mules dragging a scoop. The only lumber not provided from Clarence Bowen's mill were the tongue and groove ceiling boards that were bought from elsewhere. The original weatherboard on the exterior was covered with aluminum siding in the 1970s or '80's, according to Benjamin White. The windows have been replaced but the frames and surrounds made by Clarence Bowen are still intact. Clear plexiglass has been inserted in the openings on the belfry. Raymond Harris said that solved a problem with water leaking through the base of the belfry into the vestibule ceiling.

The church was constructed over a period of some eighteen months. The original Western ME building served the congregation during construction and, for a time, served as a community center. The Adelina community's first television set was there in 1947–48. Neighbors gathered to watch TV there.

Survey No. CT-550

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Western Church

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Adelina Road (Maryland Route 508)

CITY, TOWN

Adelina

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Calvert**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC  
☐ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☒ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
20678**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.Calvert County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

(MD Rt. 765) Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Prince Frederick

STATE

MD**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CT-550

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☐ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Western Church is a one story, four bay, t-shaped structure with an addition at one end forming a cross plan. Of frame construction, it is sheathed with aluminum siding. The gothic arched windows have simple colored glass sashes. The main entrance is located in an angle of the cross form with the door located in a projecting bell tower. The door is topped with a large gothic arch and there is a small pedimented porch at the entrance way. The tower is topped with a square belfrey and steeple with four gothic arched openings. The belfrey is trimmed with curvilinear brackets.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

CT-550

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES    Early 20th Century    BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Alluminum siding has all but obliterated the original appearance of this once charming, but typical, frame church.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY



**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Merry Stinson

March, 1980

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Historic Sites Survey

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Box 107

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Dunkirk

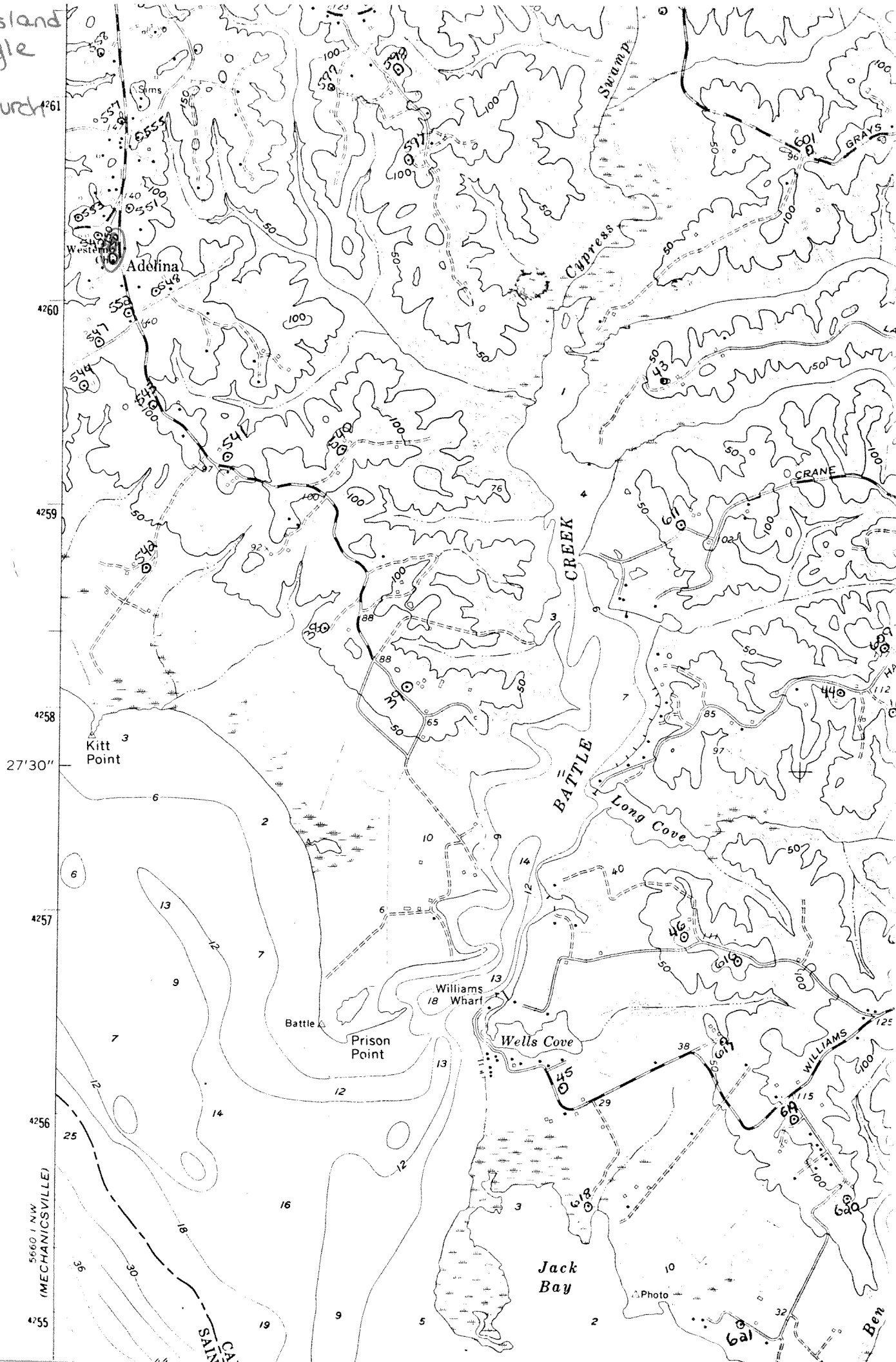
MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Broomes Island  
Quadrangle  
CT-550  
Western Church





CT-558  
Western Church  
Adelina Road  
Adelina  
Calvert County, MD

Merry Stinson  
March, 1980

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